

A second specimen, marked female, resembles in general that described, but is rather smaller, and all the colours are duller, particularly the red of the throat and chest, so that the black-brown of the back forms a broad ring between the chin and breast. The under wing-coverts are whitish, and the pale internal margin of the primaries more conspicuous. It is probably a younger bird.

*Habitat.* Island of Rotumah, Central Pacific. Native name "Aramea." I ought to mention that Mr. Sharpe has lately received, in a collection from Erromango, one of the New Hebrides, a specimen of this bird almost identical with mine in every respect. This is very curious; for Erromango is far removed from Rotumah, and the neighbouring island of Tanna is inhabited by a *distinct* species (*Myzomela cardinalis* (Gm.), figured in Latham's Synopsis, vol. i. pl. xxxiii. fig. 2).

4. A List of the Birds collected by Mr. E. C. Buxton at Darra-Salam, on the coast of Africa opposite Zanzibar. By FRANCIS NICHOLSON, F.Z.S.

[Received March 4, 1878.]

My friend Mr. Buxton, whose ornithological collection from Sumatra was described by the Marquis of Tweeddale last year ('Ibis,' 1877, p. 283), and whose name is therefore already well known to naturalists, has recently returned from a short visit to the Zanzibar coast, and has brought with him a small collection of birds. These he has lent to me for description; and I give a list of the species in the present paper, merely adding my regret that it is not a longer one. Owing, however, to a sharp attack of fever, Mr. Buxton was only able to remain on the coast a little more than a fortnight; and this accounts for the smallness of the collection. I feel sure that ornithologists will agree that, considering the collecting of birds was not the primary object of Mr. Buxton's expedition, the number of species is not a meagre one for a fortnight's shooting.

Our knowledge of East-African ornithology is not very extensive at present; and in the present paper I have referred to the only two essays which have dealt with the birds of the Zanzibar district.

These are as follows:—

1. Hartlaub, G. Report on a Collection of Birds formed in the Island of Zanzibar by Dr. John Kirk.—P. Z. S. 1867, p. 823.
2. Sharpe, R. B. On a Collection of Birds from Mombas, in Eastern Africa.—P. Z. S. 1873, p. 710.

There remains also the list of birds procured by the late Baron von der Decken, and described by Dr. Cabanis in the third volume of his 'Reisen in Ost-Afrika,' and the inestimable work of Drs. Finsch and Hartlaub, the 'Vögel Ost-Afrika's.' I have followed the order and classification adopted in the last-mentioned book.

I have only to add that the locality where this collection was made is Darra-Salam, described by Mr. Buxton as a splendid harbour, on the main coast, S.E. of Zanzibar: the country is agricultural for a mile, and then covered with bush and low timber. The birds were procured in July 1877.

Besides the birds brought by Mr. Buxton I am indebted to Dr. Günther for permission to examine a small parcel of skins sent to him by Messrs. I. and F. Moir of Zanzibar, and collected by them also at Darra-Salam. Although most of the birds had already been obtained by Mr. Buxton, there are one or two not included in that gentleman's captures.

1. *ASTUR TACHIRO.*

*Astur tachiro* (Daud.), Sharpe, Cat. B. i. p. 99.

*Nisus tachiro*, Finsch & Hartl. Vög. Ostaf. p. 78.

A young female in Messrs. Moir's collection.

2. *ASTURINULA MONOGRAMMICA.*

*Asturinula monogrammica* (Temm.); Finsch & Hartl. Vög. Ost-Afr. p. 59; Sharpe, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 711; id. Cat. B. i. p. 275.

Two specimens. It is quite evident from the way in which these two birds differ in the character of the bars on the under surface, that there is some variation in this respect to be accounted for, and *A. meridionalis*, Hartl. (Cf. Sharpe, Cat. i. p. 277) cannot be separated as a species.

3. *GLAUCIDIUM CAPENSE.*

*Glaucidium capense* (Smith); Sharpe, Cat. B. ii. p. 223.

*Athene capensis*, Finsch & Hartl. t. c. p. 98.

Two specimens of this rare little Owl, agreeing with Mr. Sharpe's description of the type in the British Museum. Dr. Finsch and Hartlaub considered it probable that this species would be more plentiful on the east coast of Africa than it is in South Africa; and this seems likely to prove the case.

4. *EURYSTOMUS AFER.*

*Eurystomus afer* (Lath.); Finsch & Hartl. t. c. p. 150; Sharpe, Ibis, 1871, p. 274; id. P. Z. S. 1873, p. 712.

Two specimens: wing 6·8 inches.

5. *CORACIAS CAUDATA.*

*Coracias caudata* (L.); Hartlaub, P. Z. S. 1867, p. 824; Finsch & Hartl. t. c. p. 154; Sharpe, Ibis, 1871, p. 194; id. P. Z. S. 1873, p. 712.

6. *HALCYON CHELICUTENSIS.*

*Halcyon chelicutensis* (Stanl.); Finsch & Hartl. t. c. p. 162; Sharpe, t. c. p. 712.

*Halcyon striolata*, Hartl. t. c. p. 824.

Two specimens.

## 7. CERYLE RUDIS.

*Ceryle rudis* (L.); Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 175.

Two specimens of this widely distributed species, which, however, does not seem to be so common in E. Africa as elsewhere, as this is the first record of it from Zanzibar.

## 8. MEROPS SUPERCILIOSUS.

*Merops superciliosus*, L.; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 178.

Three specimens, all of the brown-headed type, the true *M. superciliosus*.

## 9. MEROPS PUSILLUS.

*Merops pusillus* (Müll.); Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 712.

*M. minutus*, V.; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 188.

Three specimens; the eyebrow in each being very distinctly blue.

## 10. MEROPS ALBICOLLIS.

*Merops albicollis*, V.; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 185; Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 712.

Several specimens of this very common Bee-eater.

## 11. DICROCERCUS HIRUNDINACEUS.

*Dicrocercus hirundinaceus*, Sharpe, ed. Layard, B. S. Afr. p. 101.

*Merops hirundineus*, Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 193.

On comparing this specimen with other African individuals, I notice that the colour of the blue on the abdomen and under tail-coverts is paler, and I can find no trace of a blue eyebrow in Mr. Buxton's specimen.

## 12. IRRISOR ERYTHORHYNCHUS.

*Irrisor erythrorhynchus* (Lath.); Hartl. *t. c.* p. 824; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 202; Sharpe *t. c.* p. 712.

One specimen.

## 13. CINNYRIS MICRORHYNCHUS.

*Cinnyris microrhynchus*, Shelley, Monogr. Cinnyridæ, part 1.

*Nectarinia jardini*, Hartl. P. Z. S. 1867, p. 824; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 218, pl. ii. fig. 1; Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 713 (nec Verr.).

*Cinnyris jardini*, Cab. in Von der Decken's Reis. iii. p. 29.

An adult male fully bearing out the distinctions put forward by Captain Shelley.

## 14. CINNYRIS GUTTURALIS.

*Cinnyris gutturalis* (L.); Shelley, Monogr. part 1; Sharpe, ed. Layard, B. S. Afr. p. 311.

*N. gutturalis*, Hartl. *t. c.* p. 824; Finsch & Hart. *t. c.* p. 216; Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 713.

*Cinnyris gutturalis*, Cab. *t. c.* p. 28.

Several specimens.

## 15. ANTHODIÆTA ZAMBESIANA.

*Anthodiæta zambesiana*, Shelley, Monogr. Cinnyr. part 1; Sharpe, ed. Layard, B. S. Afr. p. 321.

*N. collaris*, Hartl. *t. c.* p. 824; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 223; Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 713 (nec V.).

*N. corallis*, Cab. *t. c.* p. 28.

An adult male individual, confirming the characters given by Captain Shelley.

## 16. DRYMÆCA AFFINIS.

*Drymæca affinis*, Smith; Sharpe, ed. Layard, B. S. Afr. p. 259. One example. Cf. Sharpe, *l. c.*

## 17. CISTICOLA ISODACTYLA.

*Cisticola isodactyla*, Peters; Sharpe, ed. Layard's B. S. Afr. p. 269.

*Drymæca isodactyla*, Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 236.

Three specimens.

## 18. MACRONYX STRIOLATUS.

*Macronyx striolatus*, Heugl. J. f. O. 1863, p. 164.

*M. croceus*, Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 276 (nec V.).

Two specimens. I think that Heuglin was wrong in reuniting his *M. striolatus* with *M. croceus*. It seems to me to be a distinct bird, with the sides of the neck streaked with white near the black collar, whilst *M. croceus* has no white streaks on the side of the neck.

## 19. ANTHUS RAALTENI.

*Anthus raalteni*, Temm.; Hartl. *t. c.* p. 825; Cab. *t. c.* p. 22; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 274.

Three specimens agreeing with Zanzibar skins of Dr. Kirk's in the British Museum, and identified as above by Drs. Finsch & Hartlaub.

## 20. CRATEROPUS KIRKI.

*Crateropus kirkii*, Sharpe, Layard's B. S. Afr. ed. 2, p. 213.

One specimen of a Babbling Thrush in bad order. It appears to belong to Mr. Sharpe's new species.

## 21. PYCNONOTUS NIGRICANS.

*Pycnonotus nigricans* (V.); Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 297; Sharpe P. Z. S. 1873, p. 712.

*Ixus nigricans*, Hartl. *t. c.* p. 825.

Three specimens.

## 22. ORIOLUS LARVATUS.

*Oriolus larvatus*, Licht.; Sharpe, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 714; id. Cat. B. iii. p. 217.

An adult in Messrs. Moir's collection.

## 23. BUCHANGA ASSIMILIS.

*Buchanga assimilis* (Bechst.); Sharpe, Cat. B. iii. p. 247.

*Dicrurus divaricatus* (Licht.); Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 323; Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 714.

Two specimens.

## 24. TELEPHONUS ERYTHROPTERUS.

*Telephonus erythropterus* (Shaw); Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 336; Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 714.

Two specimens.

## 25. DRYOSCOPIUS AFFINIS.

*Dryoscopus affinis*, Gray; Hartl. *t. c.* p. 824.

*Laniarius affinis*, Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 349.

*L. salimæ*, iid. *t. c.* p. 349.

*Dryoscopus cubla* et *D. salimæ*, Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 714.

I forwarded these birds to my friend Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe, who is working at the genus, and am indebted to him for the synonymy as above, and for the following note:—"I am glad to see that Dr. Hartlaub, in his new work on the Birds of Madagascar, unites *D. salimæ* to *D. affinis*. The two specimens now sent by Mr. Buxton represent these two supposed species—the male being *D. affinis*, and the female with white lores and grey rump *D. salimæ*. A large series of dated and sexed specimens must be examined before we can understand for certain the plumages of these little Bush-Shrikes. In the present pair the female has a totally black wing, and has grey bases to the scapulars, while the male has a narrow white edging to some of the wing-coverts, and very distinct white bases to the scapulars."

## 26. BRADYORNIS PALLIDUS.

*Bradyornis pallidus* (Müller); Sharpe, Cat. B. iii. p. 310.

*B. subalaris*, Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 713, pl. lviii. fig. 1.

Two specimens.

## 27. SIGMODUS GRACULINUS.

*Sigmodus graculinus* (Cab.); Sharpe, Cat. B. iii. p. 325.

*Prionops graculinus*, Cab. *t. c.* p. 24, taf. iii.

A specimen in changing plumage, but without any white bar on the lower surface of the wing.

## 28. PHOLIDAUGES VERREAUXI.

*Pholidauges verreauxi*, Bocage in Finsch & Hartl. Vög. Ostafri. p. 867; Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 714.

*P. leucogaster*, Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 376.

An adult male, with the characteristic white edging to the outer tail-feather. It was included in the 'Vögel Ost-Afrika's' as *P. leucogaster*, from its being met with in Mozambique by Commander Sperling. There can be little doubt, however, that *P. verreauxi* of South Africa

goes up the east coast, and extends at least as far as Angola on the west coast.

29. ESTRELDA CYANOGASTRA.

*Estrela cyanogastra* (Daud.); Sharpe, Cat. Afr. B. p. 65. no. 616.

A single specimen in Messrs. Moir's collection.

30. HYPHANTORNIS NIGRICEPS.

*Hyphantornis nigriceps*, Layard; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 392; Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 715.

One specimen of this Weaver-bird was included in the collection sent by Messrs. Moir.

31. PYTELIA MELBA.

*Pytelia melba* (L.); Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 441.

A female specimen, and of course difficult to determine correctly from this sex only; but it appears to agree with examples from South Africa in the British Museum. Drs. Finsch and Hartlaub, moreover, record it from South Mozambique, where Dr. Peters obtained it.

32. EUPLECTES NIGRIVENTRIS.

*Euplectes nigriventris* (Cass.); Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 715.

*Pyromelana nigriventris*, Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 415.

An adult male specimen.

33. EUPLECTES CAPENSIS.

*Euplectes capensis* (L.).

*Pyromelana capensis*, Finsch & Hartlaub, *t. c.* p. 416.

An adult male specimen.

34. PASSER DIFFUSUS.

*Passer diffusus*, Smith; Hartl. *t. c.* p. 826.

*P. swainsoni*, Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 451.

Two specimens.

35. COLIUS LEUCOTIS.

*Colius leucotis*, (Rüpp.); Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 472; Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 714.

One specimen.

36. TOCKUS MELANOLEUCUS.

*Tockus melanoleucus* (Licht.); Sharpe, ed. Layard, B. S. Afr. p. 127.

*Buceros melanoleucus*, Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 485.

Two specimens.

37. PÆOCEPHALUS FUSCICAPILLUS.

*Pæocephalus fuscicapillus* (Verf.).

*Psittacus fuscicapillus*, Hartl. *t. c.* p. 826.

*Pionius fuscicapillus*, Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 499.

*Pæocephalus fuscicapillus*, Sharpe, *t. c.* p. 711.

Three specimens.

38. POGONORHYNCHUS MELANOPTERUS.

*Pogonorhynchus melanopterus* (Peters); Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 504; Marsh. Monogr. Capit. pl. vii.

An adult specimen of this rare Barbet.

39. BARBATULA PUSILLA.

*Barbatula pusilla* (Dum.); Marshall, *t. c.* p. 117, pl. xlvi.

I have carefully compared Mr. Buxton's specimen with two others in the British Museum from Abyssinia (*Blanford*); and I find them quite identical in coloration, the Zanzibar bird being the least bit smaller (wing 2.05 in.). This species is new to the avifauna of Eastern Africa.

40. COCCYSTES JACOBINUS.

*Coccytes jacobinus* (Bodd.); Sharpe, P. Z. S. 1871, p. 597, et 1873, p. 711.

One specimen in moult.

41. CENTROPUS SUPERCILIOSUS.

*Centropus superciliosus* (Rüpp.); Hartl. *t. c.* p. 826.

Several specimens.

42. TRERON DELALANDII.

*Treron delalandii* (Bp.); Hartl. *t. c.* p. 827; Finsch & Hartlaub, *t. c.* p. 535.

One specimen agreeing with a South-African example of the above-named species, excepting that the size is rather smaller (wing 7.2 inches), and the bill rather long. The markings and colour of the tail appear to be identical.

43. FRANCOLINUS GRANTI.

*Francolinus grantii*, Hartl. P. Z. S. 1865, p. 665, pl. 39. fig. 1; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 589.

Identical with typical specimens of *Francolinus rosvuma*, Gray (Cat. Gallinæ Brit. Mus. 1867, p. 52), which is identified with *F. grantii* by Drs. Finsch and Hartlaub.

44. ACTITIS HYPOLEUCUS.

*Actitis hypoleucus* (L.); Hartl. *t. c.* p. 827; Finsch & Hartl. *t. c.* p. 752.

One specimen.